A Caution againſt Impoſition.

THE friends to trade and commerce, and thoſe connected with it, are requeſted not to be entrapped into a petition againſt the improvement of the Severn, to militate againſt their own intereſt.——It is not the advance of freight only in dry ſeaſons, but the diſappointments and delays occaſioned to the carriage of goods, which ſhould incline every individual to promote the improvement of the Severn, beſides being prevented from having coals from the Shropſhire Mines, is a circumſtance worthy the attention of every one.

The Deſign of the projectors of the intended Worceſter Canal is to create a monopoly in the coal trade, and to ſhut out the Shropſhire Mines from the Severn market as will appear from the propoſitions made by the grand projector, *Mr. Pratt*, to the Birmingham Canal Company.

That the citizens of Worceſter and the Barge Owners and Traders on the Severn, may not be any longer deluded by thoſe perſons who pretend to be their friends, but in truth are Wolves in Sheep's clothing.——Let them read the following extracts taken from the Journals of the Birmingham Canal Company, and then judge whether or not it is prudent for them to oppoſe the improvements of the Navigation of the River.

Navigation

Navigation Office, Birmingham, 1784. December 10th.

At a Meeting of the Committe this day, The Right Hon. Lord Dudley, *the* Rev. Mr. Dudley, Mr. Iſaac Pratt, Mr. Oliver Dixon, Mr. Thomas Brettell, *and* Mr. Richard Mee, *attended, and laid before them propoſals for opening a communication between the Birmingham and Stourbridge Canals, and in ſupport of ſuch meaſure it was ſtated by* Mr. Pratt,

I. *That water may be ſound ſufficient to ſupply all the trade to the Severn, and by that means enable this Company to turn the water that is now uſed at Autherley end to navigate towards Birmingham, and thereby alſo ſave the expence of repairing locks at that end.*

II. *That the diſtance to the Severn will be ſo much leſs that it will create an increaſe of tonnage both upon coal and merchandiſe.*

III. *That the ſaving of time will be very material to all perſons navigating upon the Canal. and alſo be a ſaving of expence to them and the public.*

IV *That in conſequence of the ſhort line of communication, a much larger quantity of the Tipton and Bilſton coals will be ſold,* in excluſion of the Coals from the Shropſhire Mines.

Can the citizens of Worceſter be ſo blind to their own intereſt as to join with a common enemy in making a monopoly of that valuable article the coal trade in favour of this great Mr. Pratt, who at preſent is one of the company of contractors for the coals on the line of the Stourbridge and Dudley Canals?

Can it be the intereſt of the citizens to exclude the produce of the Shropſhire Mines from their market?

Will they not be aſtoniſhed to find that the Rev. Dr. who but laſt year pretended ſo much to expound the cauſe of the Broſeley Collieries and Barge Owners, has now joined

joined in promoting the ſcheme of making a Canal to run parallel with the Severn, in order to exclude the Shropſhire Mines from the Severn market.

Is it thro' good will to the Broſeley Colliers, the Barge Owners, or the inhabitants of this city, that notice has been given for a meeting to oppoſe the improvements of the Navigation of the Severn, or rather is it not to miſlead and impoſe upon the minds of the unwary, in order that the deep laid-ſcheme of eſtabliſhing a monopoly in favour of thoſe mines, which their worthy man *Mr. Pratt* and his friends are contractors for, may be effected, to the excluſion of the Shropſhire coals from this market.

Beware of ſigning your own Death Warrant.

joined in promoting the scheme of making a Canal to run parallel with the Severn, in order to exclude the Shropshire Mines from the Severn market.

Is it thro' good will to the Broseley Colliers, the Barge Owners, or the inhabitants of this city, that notice has been given for a meeting to oppose the improvements of the Navigation of the Severn, or rather is it not to mislead and impose upon the minds of the unwary, in order that the deep laid-scheme of establishing a monopoly in favour of those mines, which their worthy man Mr. Pratt and his friends are contractors for, may be effected, to the exclusion of the Shropshire coals from this market.

Beware of forging your own Death Warrant.